

Claims:

1. A method of sterile packaging a chemical liquid for aerosol dispensing, comprising the steps of:
  - providing a rigid metallic container including an aerosol dispenser;
  - charging the metallic container with pressurized gas and a chemical liquid;
  - enclosing the metallic container in at least one hermetically sealed plastic layer, the plastic layer being less rigid than the metallic container; and
  - sterilizing the chemical liquid, the gas, the metallic container, and the plastic layer with radiation;
  - whereby any leakage of the pressurized gas from the metallic container will create a positive increase of pressure inside the plastic layer, maintaining an exterior of the container sterile.
2. A method of sterilizing a disinfecting liquid contained in an aerosol container comprising the steps of:
  - providing an aerosol container having an internal volume;
  - charging the internal volume of the aerosol container with a quantity of disinfecting liquid;
  - pressurizing the internal volume of the aerosol container with an inert gas and sealing the aerosol container;
  - sealing the aerosol container within a plurality of successively nested hermetic sealing layers to form a hermetically sealed container enclosure; and
  - externally irradiating said hermetically sealed container enclosure and said aerosol container therewithin at a predetermined radiation level for a predetermined time internal to simultaneously sterilize said disinfecting liquid, said aerosol container, and said plurality of successively nested hermetic sealing layers.